

While I agree in principle with Mr. Reich (the original petitioner) that there is a need for a tighter degree of control over the buying and selling of radio transmitting equipment, I cannot agree with the overly broad and overly vague petition that Mr. Reich has submitted in its current form. I say this from the perspective of having been a licensed Amateur Radio operator for 25 years, and from having spent nearly 10 of those years in the land-mobile radio service business.

My suggestion to address these issues is simple: The purchaser of any form of radio transmitting equipment that requires an operator license should be required to produce proof-of-licensing at the time of the sale. The retailer or reseller should keep a record of the purchaser's call sign as part of the normal sales records, and should decline to complete the sale if such proof cannot be produced.

Some retailers of amateur radio equipment have already been using this process for many years. I see no reason why it could not be made into an actual law, and I believe the small additional burden created in terms of record-keeping would be near-insignificant.

Respectfully submitted, 31-Jan-03.